

Dear committee members:

I am writing to you as both a citizen and an educator in higher education. In my personal life and as an educator I rely on a free and open internet for almost everything I do. I am well aware, as you, are that much of the content important to our lives and functioning lives on the internet or is communicated over a data connection, including cell data.

So the net neutrality debate is not only about bandwidth / speed. It's about the control of content, particularly at a time when more and more media, including television and movies or news and commentary or government information, are accessed via the web. A free and open internet guarantees a level playing field. Changing the rules now improperly **inverts the roles of user and provider**.

I urge you to act to maintain network neutrality.

Sincerely,
Kevin Ernste

Private citizen
&
Professor of Music
Cornell University